

Remarks

Claims 1-22 are pending, and claims 1-22 stand rejected. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request allowance of claims 1-22.

§ 102 Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 10-17, 21, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent number 6,000,608 (Dorf). The Applicants submit that claims 1-6, 10-17, 21, and 22 are novel and non-obvious over Dorf and ask the Examiner to reconsider based on the following remarks.

Claim 12 describes a code processing system configured to:

“receive the communication code, process the communication code to determine manufacturer information for the product, generate a product registration request, transmit the product registration request to a manufacturer registration system based on the manufacturer information for registration of the product, generate a communication code activation request responsive to receiving the communication code, and transmit the communication code activation request and the communication code to a communication code activation system for activation of the communication code”.

Dorf does not teach a code processing system as described in claim 12.

Dorf teaches a multifunction card that can be a phone card, a gift certificate, a loyalty card, etc, and methods of using the card for these purposes. The Examiner rejected the code processing system of claim 12 of the pending application based on the teaching in Dorf in column 7, lines 3-27. In this section, Dorf provides a method of activating a phone card number or code.

However, claim 12 of the pending application provides a code processing system that provides for both activating a communication code (such as a phone card code) and registering a product with a manufacturer. The Examiner failed to show where Dorf teaches registering a product with a manufacturer in addition to activating a phone card.

More particularly, for activating a communication code, claim 12 describes a code processing system configured to “generate a communication code activation request responsive to receiving the communication code, and transmit the communication code activation request and the communication code to a communication code activation system for activation of the communication code.” Dorf does teach a method of activating a phone card. To activate the

phone card, Dorf provides a processing hub (103) that processes a card identification number, determines if the retailer selling the card is an authorized retailer, and forwards the card identification number to the issuer of the card to activate the record having the card identification number (*see* Dorf, column 7, lines 3-27). This process is a fairly standard process for activating phone cards.

Dorf does not teach registering a product with a manufacturer as described in claim 12. For registering the product with a manufacturer, claim 12 describes a code processing system configured to “receive the communication code, process the communication code to determine manufacturer information for the product, generate a product registration request, [and] transmit the product registration request to a manufacturer registration system based on the manufacturer information for registration of the product”. Dorf does not teach these additional limitations. As stated in the preceding paragraph, Dorf provides for activation of a phone card with an issuer. However, Dorf does not provide for both activation of the phone card with the issuer and registering a product (associated with the phone card) with the manufacturer of the product, as described in claim 12.

Therefore, the Applicants submit that claim 12 is novel and non-obvious in view of Dorf. The same argument applies for independent claim 1.

§ 103 Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 7-9 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Dorf and U.S. Patent Publication 2001/0025245 (Flickinger). Claims 7-9 and 18-20 are dependent on a novel and non-obvious independent claim, so the rejection is moot.

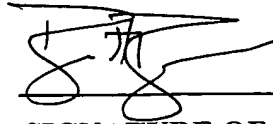
Conclusion

Based on the above remarks, the Applicants submit that claims 1-22 are allowable. There may be additional reasons in support of patentability, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of brevity. The Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-22.

Any fees may be charged to deposit account 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

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SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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